

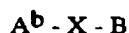
Appl. No. 09/889,255
Atty. Docket No. CM2000XML\$
Amdt. dated 12/06/2004
Reply to Office Action of 10/20/2004
Customer No. 27752

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A detergent composition comprising a pectate lyase enzyme and a surfactant selected from the group consisting of a mid-chain branched anionic surfactant, an amine oxide, and mixtures thereof wherein:

(A) said mid-chain branched anionic surfactant has the formula:



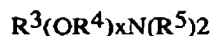
wherein:

- (I) A^b is a hydrophobic mid-chain branched alkyl moiety, having in total 9 to 22 carbons in said moiety, said moiety further having: (1) a longest linear carbon chain attached to the $-X - B$ moiety in the range of from 8 to 21 carbon atoms; (2) one or more $C_1 - C_3$ alkyl moieties branching from said longest linear carbon chain; (3) at least one of said $C_1 - C_3$ alkyl moieties attached directly to a carbon of said longest linear carbon chain at a position within the range of the position 2 carbon, counting from position 1 carbon (#1) which is attached to said $-X - B$ moiety, to the position of the terminal carbon minus 2 carbons, (the $(\omega - 2)$ carbon); and (4) with the proviso that when more than one of these compounds is present, the average total number of carbon atoms in the $A^b - X$ moieties in said formula is within the range of greater than 11 to 20;
- (II) B is a hydrophilic moiety selected from sulfates, sulfonates, amine oxides, polyoxyalkylene, and mixtures thereof; and
- (III) X is selected from $-CH_2-$ and $-C(O)-$; and wherein

(B) said amine oxide surfactant has the formula:

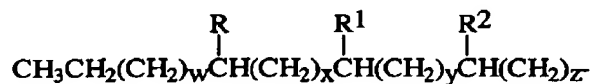


Appl. No. 09/889,255
 Atty. Docket No. CM2000XML\$
 Amdt. dated 12/06/2004
 Reply to Office Action of 10/20/2004
 Customer No. 27752



wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, or alkyl phenyl group and mixtures thereof; wherein R^3 contains from about 8 to about 22 carbon atoms; R^4 is an alkylene or hydroxyalkylene group containing from about 2 to about 3 carbon atoms and mixtures thereof; x is from 0 to about 3; and each R^5 is an alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group containing from about 1 to about 3 carbon atoms or a polyethylene oxide group containing from about 1 to about 3 ethylene oxide groups; and further wherein said R^5 groups can be attached to each other to form a ring structure.

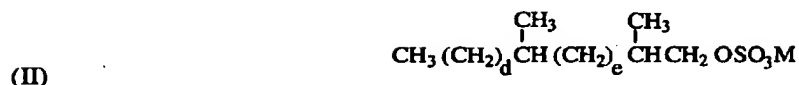
2. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 1 wherein said A^b moiety has the formula:



wherein the total number of carbon atoms is from 13 to 19; R, R^1 , and R^2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1 - C_3 alkyls and mixtures thereof, with the proviso that: R, R^1 , and R^2 are not all hydrogen and, when z is 0, at least R or R^1 is not hydrogen; w is an integer from 0 to 13; x is an integer from 0 to 13; y is an integer from 0 to 13; z is an integer from 0 to 13; and $w + x + y + z$ is from 7 to 13.

3. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 2 wherein said mid-chain branched anionic surfactant has a formula selected from the group consisting of:

Appl. No. 09/889,255
 Atty. Docket No. CM2000XMLS
 Amdt. dated 12/06/2004
 Reply to Office Action of 10/20/2004
 Customer No. 27752



and mixtures thereof; wherein M represents one or more cations; a, b, d, and e are integers,

a+b is from 10 to 16, d+e is from 8 to 14 with the proviso that:

when a + b = 10, a is an integer from 2 to 9 and b is an integer from 1 to 8;

when a + b = 11, a is an integer from 2 to 10 and b is an integer from 1 to 9;

when a + b = 12, a is an integer from 2 to 11 and b is an integer from 1 to 10;

when a + b = 13, a is an integer from 2 to 12 and b is an integer from 1 to 11;

when a + b = 14, a is an integer from 2 to 13 and b is an integer from 1 to 12;

when a + b = 15, a is an integer from 2 to 14 and b is an integer from 1 to 13;

when a + b = 16, a is an integer from 2 to 15 and b is an integer from 1 to 14;

when d + e = 8, d is an integer from 2 to 7 and e is an integer from 1 to 6;

when d + e = 9, d is an integer from 2 to 8 and e is an integer from 1 to 7;

when d + e = 10, d is an integer from 2 to 9 and e is an integer from 1 to 8;

when d + e = 11, d is an integer from 2 to 10 and e is an integer from 1 to 9;

when d + e = 12, d is an integer from 2 to 11 and e is an integer from 1 to 10;

when d + e = 13, d is an integer from 2 to 12 and e is an integer from 1 to 11;

when d + e = 14, d is an integer from 2 to 13 and e is an integer from 1 to 12;

and with the further proviso that when more than one said mid-chain branched ionic surfactants with formula I or II is present, the average total number of carbon atoms in the branched primary alkyl moieties is from 11 to 20.

Appl. No. 09/889,255
Atty. Docket No. CM2000XML\$
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Customer No. 27752

4. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 3 wherein said mid-chain branched anionic surfactant has an A^b - X moiety comprising from 11 to 20 carbon atoms and B is a sulfate group.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 1 wherein said amine oxide surfactant is selected from C₁₀-C₁₈ alkyl dimethyl amine oxides, C₈-C₁₂ alkoxy ethyl dihydroxy ethyl amine oxides and mixtures thereof.
7. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 6 wherein said amine oxide surfactant is comprised at a level of from 0.2% to 15% by weight of the total composition.
8. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 7 wherein said mid-chain branched anionic surfactant is comprised at a level of from 0.1% to 50% by weight of the total composition.
9. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 7 wherein said pectate lyase is present at a level of from 0.0001% to 2% pure enzyme by weight of the total composition.
10. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 1 of the present invention further comprising a pectin lyase enzyme.

Appl. No. 09/889,255
Atty. Docket No. CM2000XML\$
Amdt. dated 12/06/2004
Reply to Office Action of 10/20/2004
Customer No. 27752

11. (Previously presented) A method of cleaning fabric, dishware or a hard surface comprising the step of contacting said fabric, dishware or hard surface with the detergent composition according to claim 1, for superior cleaning performance.
12. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 1 wherein said hydrophilic moiety B is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene, polyoxypropylene, alkoxylated sulfates, polyhydroxy moieties, phosphate esters, glycerol sulfonates, polygluconates, polyphosphate esters, phosphonates, sulfosuccinates, sulfosuccaminates, polyalkoxylated carboxylates, glucamides, taurinates, sarcosinates, glycinate, isethionates, dialkanolamides, monoalkanolamides, monoalkanolamide sulfates, diglycolamides, diglycolamide sulfates, glycerol esters, glycerol ester sulfates, glycerol ethers, glycerol ether sulfates, polyglycerol ethers, polyglycerol ether sulfates, sorbitan esters, polyalkoxylated sorbitan esters, ammonioalkanesulfonates, amidopropyl betaines, alkylated quats, alkylated/polyhydroxyalkylated quats, alkylated quats, alkylated/polyhydroxylated oxypropyl quats, imidazolines, 2-yl-succinates, sulfonated alkyl esters, sulfonated fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.
13. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 1 wherein said A^b hydrophobic mid-chain branched alkyl moiety has from 12 to about 18 total carbons.
14. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 1 with the further proviso that when more than one of said compounds is present, said average total number of carbon atoms in said A^b-X moieties in said formula is within the range of 14.5 to about 18.

Appl. No. 09/889,255
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15. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 2 wherein said C₁-C₃ alkyl is a methyl.
16. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 3 wherein said average total number of carbon atoms in said branched primary alkyl moieties is from 14.5 to 18.
17. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 4 wherein said mid-chain branched anionic surfactant has an A^b - X moiety comprising from 16 to 18 carbon atoms.
18. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 6 wherein said amine oxide surfactant is comprised at a level of from 1% to 10% by weight of the total composition.
19. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 7 wherein said mid-chain branched surfactant is comprised at a level of from 0.5% to 40% by weight of the total composition.
20. (Previously presented) The detergent composition according to claim 8 wherein said pectate lyase is present at a level of from 0.0005% to 0.5% pure enzyme by weight of the total composition.